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General Assembly
Security Council

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GENERAL

A/53/883
S/1999/346
26 March 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 64
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY - PREVENTION OF THE
VIOLENT DISINTEGRATION OF STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 26 March 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the communiqué issued on 24 March 1999 by the Government of Mexico concerning the situation in Kosovo (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Manuel TELLO
Permanent Representative
of Mexico to the United Nations

99-08757 (E) 260399 260399

Annex

Communiqué issued on 14 March 1999 by the Government of Mexico

In connection with the air strikes begun today by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization against Serbian military targets, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expresses its concern that no peaceful means of solving the existing dispute among the various parties to the conflict in Kosovo has been found. It also regrets the recourse to the use of force in the Balkan region without the express consent of the Security Council, the body responsible for maintaining international peace and security.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico is firmly convinced that the preferred means of settling a conflict must be dialogue and negotiation, and it therefore calls on all parties to resume, as soon as possible, talks with a view to achieving a stable and lasting peace based on respect for the human rights of all ethnic groups in the region, and on the territorial integrity of States.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 64
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY - PREVENTION OF THE VIOLENT DISINTEGRATION OF STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 26 March 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the communiqué issued on 25 March 1999 by the countries members of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action in Latin America (Rio Group) concerning the situation in Kosovo (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Manuel TELLO
Permanent Representative of
Mexico to the United Nations

Annex

Communiqué issued on 25 March 1999 by the Rio Group

The countries members of the Rio Group express their anxiety about the commencement of air strikes by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization against Serbian military targets and, in particular, their concern that no peaceful means of solving, in conformity with international law, the existing dispute among the various parties to the conflict in Kosovo has been found.

The Rio Group therefore calls on all parties to resume, as soon as possible, talks with a view to achieving a comprehensive and final settlement with a view to re-establishing a stable and lasting peace based on respect for the human rights of all ethnic groups and minorities in the region, and on the territorial integrity of States.

The Rio Group also regrets the recourse to the use of force in the Balkan region in contravention of the provisions of Article 53, paragraph 1, and Article 54 of the Charter of the United Nations, which state "... no enforcement action shall be taken under regional arrangements or by regional agencies without the authorization of the Security Council" and "the Security Council shall at all times be kept fully informed of activities undertaken or in contemplation under regional arrangements or by regional agencies for the maintenance of international peace and security".

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General Assembly
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A/54/76
S/1999/348
26 March 1999
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-fourth session
Item 43 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 26 March 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement on the Middle East peace process by the heads of State and Government of the European Union, issued on 25 March 1999 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 43 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dieter KASTRUP
Permanent Representative of Germany
to the United Nations

* A/54/50.

99-08770 (E) 010499 010499

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ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Middle East peace process

The Heads of State and Government of the European Union reaffirm their support for a negotiated settlement in the Middle East, to reflect the principles of "land for peace" and ensure the security, both collective and individual, of the Israeli and Palestinian peoples. In this context, the European Union welcomes the decision by the Palestinian National Union and associated bodies to reaffirm the nullification of the provisions in the Palestinian National Charter which called for the destruction of Israel and to reaffirm their commitment to recognize and live in peace with Israel. However, the European Union remains concerned at the current deadlock in the peace process and calls upon the parties to implement fully and immediately the Wye River Memorandum.

The European Union also calls upon the parties to reaffirm their commitments to the basic principles established within the framework of Madrid, Oslo and subsequent agreements, in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973). It urges the parties to agree on an extension of the transitional period established by the Oslo agreements.

The European Union calls in particular for an early resumption of final status negotiations in the coming months on an accelerated basis, and for these to be brought to a prompt conclusion and not prolonged indefinitely. The European Union believes that it should be possible to conclude the negotiations within a target period of one year. It expresses its readiness to work to facilitate an early conclusion to the negotiations.

The European Union urges both parties to refrain from activities which prejudge the outcome of those final status negotiations and from any activity contrary to international law, including all settlement activity, and to fight incitement to hatred and violence.

The European Union reaffirms the continuing and unqualified Palestinian right to self-determination, including the option of a State, and looks forward to the early fulfilment of this right. It appeals to the parties to strive in good faith for a negotiated solution on the basis of the existing agreements, without prejudice to this right, which is not subject to any veto. The European Union is convinced that the creation of a democratic, viable and peaceful sovereign Palestinian State on the basis of existing agreements and through negotiations would be the best guarantee of Israel's security and Israel's acceptance as an equal partner in the region. The European Union declares its readiness to consider the recognition of a Palestinian State in due course in accordance with the basic principles referred to above.

The European Union also calls for an early resumption of negotiations on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks of the Middle East peace process, leading to the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 425 (1978).

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1999/349
26 March 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 26 MARCH 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Contact Group of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) on Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo learned today with extreme concern that three military jet fighters of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) violated the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Two of these jet fighters are reportedly shot down.

As the Chairman of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, I have the honour to convey the support of the Group for the request by the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina for an emergency meeting of the Security Council to address this issue of grave concern.

It would be appreciated if the present letter were to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hadi NEJAD-HOSSEINIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Chairman of the Contact Group of the
Organization of the Islamic Conference
on Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

99-08789 (E) 260399

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

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S/1999/350
26 March 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 26 MARCH 1999 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1132 (1997) CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN SIERRA LEONE ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to resolution 1171 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 5 June 1998, concerning Sierra Leone. In paragraph 4 of that resolution, the Committee is required to report to the Council on notifications received from States on the export of arms and related matériel to Sierra Leone, as well as on notifications of imports of arms and related matériel made by the Government of Sierra Leone.

Accordingly, I wish to inform you that the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone received a notification on 25 March 1999 from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the export of the following items of arms and related matériel in connection with the United Kingdom's programme of assistance to Sierra Leone: 2520 x L1A1 7.62 SLR rifles; 1.91 million rounds of 7.62 mm ammunition; 6 Land Rover Defender vehicles; 6 Bedford diesel cargo trucks; 1 Bedford 4x4 MJ recovery vehicle; spares for the above vehicles; and, 2,500 x 50 water-purifying tablets, containing toxological suppressants. The entry point of the aforementioned items will either be Lungi International Airport, Lungi, or Queen Elizabeth II Quay, Cline Town, Freetown.

(Signed) Fernando Enrique PETRELLA
Chairman
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997)
concerning Sierra Leone

99-08801 (E) 260399

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1999/351
26 March 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

LETTER DATED 26 MARCH 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement issued on 25 March 1999 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan concerning the missile and bomb strikes by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the territory of Yugoslavia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Akmaral Kh. ARYSTANBEKOVA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan
to the United Nations

99-08812 (E) 260399 260399

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Annex

Statement issued on 25 March 1999 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan considers the missile and bomb strikes by the armed forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the territory of Yugoslavia as a transition to the use of force to solve the Kosovo crisis. This has led to an escalation of international tension.

Kazakhstan advocates coordinated international efforts to ensure stability in Yugoslavia and the Balkans as a whole. Further tension and loss of human life can be averted only through effective and coordinated measures by the entire international community, making use of the relevant mechanisms of the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. It is still possible to halt the bloodshed in Yugoslavia. Measures must be taken to ensure the immediate withdrawal of Serbian armed units from Kosovo, renew talks within the framework of the Contact Group and guarantee unimpeded access of humanitarian assistance to the civilian population.

UNITED
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S/1999/352
27 March 1999
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ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 28
Cooperation between the United Nations
and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 26 March 1999 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of an appeal by the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation addressed to the parliaments of all countries, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, concerning the missile and bomber strikes carried out by NATO against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 28, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. LAVROV

Annex

APPEAL BY THE FEDERATION COUNCIL OF THE FEDERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE PARLIAMENTS OF ALL COUNTRIES, THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION, THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, AND THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE STATES MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES

On 24 March 1999, combined military forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) carried out missile and bomber strikes against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. There have been casualties among the population and many civilian facilities have been damaged. Plans are being made for new, more powerful strikes. NATO is attempting in this way to compel a sovereign and independent State - the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - to change its internal governmental and constitutional structure and to force it to accept the deployment in its territory of foreign forces, namely the forces of NATO.

This is a blow to the foundations of the existing international order and the rule of law and a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and of the universally accepted norms and principles of international law. Attempts to justify these missile and bomber strikes by referring to "the prevention of a humanitarian catastrophe" are utterly without foundation.

The experience of recent decades, including that of Europe, shows that attempts by military blocs to use force to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign States have yielded nothing except a widening of the sphere of conflict and new sufferings for the people. Nothing whatsoever in international law provides a basis for conduct of this kind.

Today NATO presumes to judge and punish Yugoslavia, but tomorrow the threat may be directed against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of any other country, which may find itself the target of the use or threat of force as a result of the arbitrary and unilateral decision of one or another group of States seeking to achieving some specific aim.

In essence, the North Atlantic alliance has usurped the power of the United Nations Security Council. NATO has even violated its own Charter, which authorizes the use of force by the alliance only in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

The present unilateral action by NATO runs counter to an entire series of decisions and measures adopted by the Contact Group, OSCE and the United Nations, on the basis of which determined efforts have been made in recent months to bring about a settlement of the Kosovo crisis by political means.

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation underscores the special responsibility of the parliaments of the member countries of North Atlantic Treaty Organization for their de facto endorsement

of this act of aggression by NATO against a sovereign State Member of the United Nations.

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation calls upon the parliaments of all countries, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States to recognize all the grave consequences of this armed aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which may become irreversible and result in the destruction of a world order that has been built up by sacrifice over many generations.

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation appeals to parliamentarians to spare no effort - before it is too late - to put an immediate end to this military and political madness, to prevent the aggressors from crossing a fateful threshold, and to revert to the search for a political settlement of the Kosovo crisis.

Moscow
26 March 1999

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1999/353
28 March 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 27 MARCH 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward, enclosed herewith, a copy of the letter dated 25 March 1999 from Zivadin Jovanovic, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to Knut Vollebaek, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway and the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (see annex).

I would be very grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

99-08847 (E) 280399

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Annex

Letter dated 25 March 1999 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway and the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

On 24 March 1999, the countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), directed by the United States of America, started a flagrant aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, a sovereign, independent European State, and a founding member of the United Nations and member of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). This criminal, unprecedented act of aggression, in clear support of separatism and terrorism, has already caused massive human losses and enormous destruction of civilian infrastructure all over Yugoslavia, thus provoking enormous humanitarian suffering.

Having regard that the continuing NATO aggression against Yugoslavia represents the most blatant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act, I call on you to convene a special session of the OSCE Permanent Council without delay.

I expect that the Permanent Council will consider thoroughly the consequences of this vandal aggression and, in accordance with its responsibilities, will undertake adequate measures to condemn and stop it as a great danger for peace and stability in Europe.

Now it has become clear that your unprovoked unilateral decision to completely withdraw the OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission as of 19 March 1999 has been part of the preconceived scenario of orchestrated preparations for the NATO aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. I consider, therefore, that you have thus unilaterally broken the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia-OSCE Agreement.

I stand ready to personally attend the meeting of the Permanent Council.

May I ask you to circulate the present letter to all the members of OSCE.

(Signed) Živadin JOVANOVIĆ

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/354
30 March 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH AND FRENCH

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the question of the Western Sahara,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 22 March 1999 (S/1999/307) and the observations and recommendations contained therein,

Welcoming also the agreement in principle to the Secretary-General's package by the Government of Morocco and recalling its acceptance by the POLISARIO Front,

1. Decides to extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) until 30 April 1999 to allow for an understanding to be reached among all concerned on detailed modalities for the implementation of the identification and appeals protocols, including a revised implementation schedule, in a manner that would preserve the integrity of the Secretary-General's package of measures;

2. Requests both parties to move ahead with the necessary discussions to reach an agreement on the refugee repatriation protocol, so that all aspects of the work needed to prepare the way for the repatriation of refugees may begin, including confidence-building measures, and in that regard welcomes the decision of the POLISARIO Front to allow the resumption of pre-registration activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Tindouf;

3. Welcomes the signature, by the Government of Morocco and the MINURSO Force Commander, of the agreement on mines and unexploded ordnance mentioned in paragraph 13 of the report of the Secretary-General, and urges the POLISARIO Front to engage in a similar effort;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council by 23 April 1999 on the implementation of this resolution;

5. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

99-08921 (E) 300399

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A/53/887
S/1999/355
30 March 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 62
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 29 March 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to our letter dated 24 March 1999, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 23 and 26 March 1999.

On 23 March 1999, one Turkish aircraft of unknown type entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations.

The aircraft in question violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, landing at 2114 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, from where it departed at 2139 hours on the same day, exiting towards the Ankara FIR.

On 26 March 1999, 16 military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force (12 F-16, two C-130, one C-160 and one other aircraft of unknown type) entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations.

The 12 F-16 aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the Ankara FIR.

The two C-130 and one C-160 aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying also over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a southeasterly direction.

The aircraft of unknown type violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of the Cape of Apostolos Andreas before exiting towards the Ankara FIR.

As stated in my previous letters, these Turkish unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus are in violation of international air traffic rules, and at the same time are in contravention to the provisions of Security Council resolutions on Cyprus.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to strongly protest these new provocative acts by Turkey, which demonstrate Turkey's blatant disregard of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and all the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

I would like, once more, to underline that the present violations occurred after the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1217 and 1218 (1998), in which the Council called upon all States to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and to refrain from any action which might prejudice that sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. My Government expects that the Turkish side will show compliance with the provisions of these resolutions.

Such provocative actions are not conducive to reducing tension and run counter to the initiative of the Secretary-General announced on 30 September 1998, within the framework of his Mission of Good Offices, with the goal of reducing tensions and promoting progress towards a just and lasting settlement in Cyprus.

Furthermore, the continuing overflights by the Turkish Air Force, as well as the presence of the Turkish military occupation forces on the island, constitute the underlying causes of tension in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotos ZACK[illegible]S
Ambassad[illegible]
Permanent Representative